

Please add the following new claims.

B<sup>2</sup> 24.(new) A method of increasing the lifespan of osteoblasts in a bone-containing host in need of preventing bone loss or stimulating bone formation, comprising the step of:  
administering therapeutically effective dosages at least 10 micrograms per kilogram body weight of isolated parathyroid fragment wherein said parathyroid fragment is parathyroid hormone (1-34), to said host.

Remarks

On December 19, 2000, Applicants received a telephone call from Examiner Stroup withdrawing the rejection of claims 1-5, 15, 16, 20-22, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph because the rejection was obviated in light of Applicants amendments in Paper 6. Applicants thank Examiner Stroup for her prompt clarification. Examiner Stroup also indicated that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103 remain.

The Examiner rejected claims 6-14 and 17-19 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102 or obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103. These claims have been canceled thereby rendering the Examiner's rejection moot.

A review of Applicants' Response to the Examiner's First Office Action reveals that Applicants previous amendment of independent claim 1 to reflect a dosage range of "between approximately 10 and 1000 micrograms per kilogram body weight of isolated parathyroid fragment" was not necessary to overcome the Examiner's rejection. In the First Office Action, the Examiner did not object to Applicants' use of the term "therapeutically effective dosages" nor did the Examiner suggest that Applicant include a dosage range within the Claims. Applicants have, therefore, removed this language from claim 1.

Applicants have added new claim 24. Support for claim 24 is found on page 19, lines 6-

9. The specification teaches that the lower therapeutic dose is about 10 µg/kg./body weight. The upper threshold of the therapeutic dose is governed by toxicity and is readily determine by those of ordinary skill in the art.

In conclusion, Applicants request that the Examiner consider the enclosed amendments and remarks and allow all pending claims. This Amendment and Response to Office Action is filed with a petition for a three month extension of time to and including March 19, 2001. Please charge the requisite fee to deposit account 11-0980. If any outstanding issues may be resolved via telephone conference, such a conference is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

#9/B JG  
3/27/01

In the claims:

Claims 6-14 and 17-19 have been canceled.

The Claims have been amended as follows:

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1. (twice amended) A method of increasing the lifespan of osteoblasts in a bone-  
containing host in need of preventing bone loss or stimulating bone formation, comprising the  
step of:
- B1 administering therapeutically effective dosages of [between approximately 10 and 1000  
micrograms per kilogram body weight of isolated parathyroid fragment wherein said] isolated  
parathyroid fragment wherein said parathyroid fragment is parathyroid hormone (1-34), to said  
host.
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response to Office Action , along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: March 19, 2001

